

MODERN MEDICINE AND SURGERY IN THE ORIENT.*

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IN Japan education in medicine is a part of the general system, which is as complete in its development as may be found in any country of the world. The educational centre is Tokyo, where one of the great universities of Japan is located, the other being Kyoto. Of the one hundred and thirty-one professors in the University of Tokyo, the College of Medicine has twenty-four with four or five hundred students. There are two hospitals connected with the college, having a total capacity of five hundred and seventy-one beds.

In addition to the College of Medicine of the University there are in Japan eight other medical colleges. Foreign physicians, who are graduates of medical colleges having a reputable standing, will on application be granted a license to practise. There are a number of hospitals in addition to those connected with the medical colleges.

There is a training school for nurses connected with the Red Cross Hospital. They receive a very practical instruction by lectures and demonstrations, and are made nurses and not half doctors. They serve an apprenticeship of three years. A graduate nurse in private practice receives from fifty to seventy-five cents a day.

In no other part of the world is the Red Cross Society so perfectly organized or so efficiently equipped. The Society owns two hospital ships. It is the largest in membership as well as the richest Red Cross organization in the world.

Japan also has a well equipped school for the instruction of its medical military officers. Massage is practised generally among Japanese people.

Japan undoubtedly takes the first place in the Orient in all that relates to the adoption and cultivation of modern scientific medicine.

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In China, outside of the few hospitals and fewer medical colleges connected with them under British or American control, modern medical science does not have a very firm foothold.

The Canton Hospital, which was opened in 1835 by Dr. Kerr, a missionary, has had a place in the records of surgery for many years by reason of the large number of cases of vesical calculi operated for by Dr. Kerr. In Canton, as is well known, the sanitary regulations are not enforced, but, in marked contrast to the conditions in Canton, one sees much in Shanghai which gives evidence of the influence of Western civilization, especially outside of the Chinese part of the city. There are four hospitals. In considering the state of modern medicine in China, it is necessary to bear in mind that it has reached its highest development in those cities in which there is a large foreign population.

In India, Bombay is the seat of the Grant Memorial College, the largest of the four medical colleges of the country. Connected with the colleges are hospitals used in conducting clinical and laboratory instruction. The teachers in the colleges and the staffs of the hospitals are taken from the medical officers of the Indian Military Service. The medical colleges are in affiliation with the universities which constitute the head of the educational system carried on by the British Government. Very few Mohammedans enter the medical profession. The Government, with all its power, refrains, except in extreme conditions, from the enactment and the execution of various desirable laws and sanitary regulations calculated to disturb the uneasy sensibilities of the natives.

As to the plague in India, inoculation is gaining favor, and it is believed that before very long opposition to its practice by the native population will be generally overcome. In Bombay Dr. Mears was informed that but two varieties of plague rats had been identified—*Mus Rattus* and *Mus Decumanus*. Since his return, in studying the reports from San Francisco of the Marine Hospital Service, he notices the statement that in addition to these there have been identified the *Mus Alexandrus* and *Mus Musculus*. Dr. Mears found the homes for lepers in various cities in India of much interest.